



Shasta/Hanchett Park Neighborhood Association

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July 27, 2009

Andrew Crabtree, Senior Planner and Members of the General Task Force  
Envision 2040, San Jose PBCE  
200 East Santa Clara Street  
San Jose, CA 95113  
Via e-mail: Andrew.crabtree@sanjsoeca.gov

Dear Andrew et al,

This letter is written on behalf of the Shasta Hanchett Park Neighborhood Association (SHPNA). The group was founded in 1985 to protect the interests of our historic and beloved community. Over the years, we have worked with the City of San Jose, Developers, Builders and our neighbors to create a balanced neighborhood. Because of our involvement, we boast one of the most successful communities in the City.

In June 2009, Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services revised an original *Greenprint 2000* to become more 'aligned' with the City's General Plan. However, opening statements acknowledge that this revised plan calls for a more modest approach to the establishment of new parks and recreation areas.

Perhaps with an influence to decrease – or 'lower' the bar -- the amount of recommended park space for our residents, the revised the *Greenprint* document **still** finds many areas in the city to be deficient in parks, recreation areas and open spaces where individuals and families can take in nature and avoid the stresses that life in the Silicon Valley can bring.

Great cities have Great Parks, period. Hyde Park, London; Central Park, New York; Golden Gate, San Francisco are all cities with successful planning and appreciation of their historic past and our need for recreation.

The goal of the General Plan Task Force is to create a vibrant, dynamic, livable city. And atmosphere is key to its success! For years, your citizens have been attending meetings, writing letters and becoming activists; all to participate in a movement towards achieving the goal of creating that livable city. Will you listen?

Let us help you make our city a wonderful place to live by supporting our efforts to:

- Create open, green spaces by NOT decreasing the 3.5 acre per 100 person as a minimum,
- Find ways to create 'walkable' communities, including trails that connect to other trails and places of interest, and
- Establish policies that ensure more green, recreation areas for a growing population

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads 'Ruth Cavagnaro'.

Ruth Cavagnaro

Chair, Neighborhood Preservation & On Behalf of The Board of Directors,  
Shasta Hanchett Neighborhood Park Association